

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 00917 01 OF 02 241213Z

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 ACDA-10 EUR-12 SAJ-01 IO-11 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2957

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SAN JOSE 0917

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: KISSINGER VISIT COVERAGE - WELCOME ADDRESS BY
FONMIN FACIO

STATE FOR S/PRS

USIA FOR IPS/PL; IRS/PL ILA IOP

NSC FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT

WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. NESSEN

FOLLOWING IS ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF FOREIGN MINISTER
FACIO'S WELCOME ADDRESS IN HONOR OF SECRETARY KISSINGER
DELIVERED AT JUAN SANTAMARIA AIRPORT FEBRUARY 23 ON THE
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PAGE 02 SAN JO 00917 01 OF 02 241213Z

SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL. TRANSLATION WAS PREPARED FOR THE

PRESS BY FACIO HIMSELF.

MR. SECRETARY OF STATE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER

IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT
OF COSTA RICA, I EXTEND TO YOU A MOST CORDIAL
WELCOME.

YOU ARE ARRIVING IN A COUNTRY WHERE YOU ARE
HONORED AND RESPECTED. THESE FEELINGS ARE NOT ONLY
INSPIRED BY THE FACT THAT YOU REPRESENT A POWERFUL
AND FRIENDLY NATION -- WHOSE INDEPENDENCE, ALREADY
BICENTENNIAL, HAS ILLUMINATED MANKIND'S PATH TOWARDS
FREEDOM -- BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF YOUR OWN PERSONAL
WORTH. BECAUSE, DR. KISSINGER, TO US YOU ARE ONE OF
THE WORLD'S GREATEST PEACE ARCHITECTS.

I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WORKING WITH YOU
IN MANY INTERAMERICAN MEETINGS. THAT IS WHY I AM A
WITNESS OF YOUR DETERMINATION TO IMPROVE THE RELATIONS
BETWEEN YOUR COUNTRY AND THIS HEMISPHERE'S OTHER
NATIONS. IN TLATELOLCO, IN WASHINGTON, IN ATLANTA,
IN NEW YORK AND AGAIN IN WASHINGTON, I NOTED HOW,
THANKS TO YOUR INFLUENCE, THE NEGLIGENT "LOW PROFILE"
POLICY WAS, STEP BY STEP, SUBSTITUTED BY A UNITED
STATES LATIN AMERICAN POLICY MUCH MORE POSITIVE AND
REALISTIC, WHICH YOU WISELY CALLED "GOOD
PARTNERSHIP."

THE NEW DIALOGUE" WHICH YOU PROPOSED TO US IN
OCTOBER OF 1973, OPENED THE WAY FOR AN UNDERSTANDING
WE HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY EXPLORED. IT MADE EVIDENT
THE FACT THAT TO REVIVE THE OAS THERE WAS NO NEED
TO INTRODUCE RADICAL CHANGES, WHICH MIGHT HAVE
IMPLIED THE RISK OF FORSAKING THE SOUND JUDICIAL
CONQUESTS OF THE PAST. "THE NEW DIALOGUE" MADE CLEAR
THAT WHAT WE NEED IS MORE OF A FRANK EXCHANGE OF
OPINIONS, LESS FORMALITY, LESS CONFLICTING RHETORIC AND
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PAGE 03 SAN JO 00917 01 OF 02 241213Z

MORE POLITICAL DETERMINATION, IN ORDER TO SOLVE EFFICIENTLY
THE PROBLEMS POSED BY UNDERDEVELOPMENT.
ALTHOUGH THE "NEW DIALOGUE" WAS FORMALLY INTERRUPTED
BY CAUSES NOT IMPUTABLE TO YOU, MR. SECRETARY OF STATE,
IN PRACTICE, ITS METHODS AND ITS THESES HAVE BEEN
DEFINITELY INCORPORATED IN THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM.
THE TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA WHICH TODAY BRINGS YOU TO
COSTA RICA, IS FURTHER PROOF OF YOUR DETERMINATION TO

TALK FRANKLY WITH LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT LEADERS, AND TO COME IN CONTACT, HOWEVER BRIEFLY, WITH THE PEOPLE THEY REPRESENT.

THE TRUE MEANING OF "DETENTE": FEW MEN, DR. KISSINGER, HAVE CONTRIBUTED AS MUCH AS YOU HAVE TO MOVING THE WORLD AWAY FROM A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST. AGAINST THE BLINDNESS AND FANATISM OF THOSE WHO DO NOT MIND TAKING THE RISK OF AN ATOMIC WAR, YOU HAVE STRUCTURED AND MAINTAINED THE WISE POLICY OF "DETENTE," DESTINED TO AVOID THE CATASTROPHE OF A THERMO-NUCELAR CONFRONTATION.

"DETENTE" IS A VERY COMPLEX POLICY WHICH, NOT ONLY IMPLIES THE MAINTENANCE OF THE TWO SUPER-POWERS BALANCE -- BUT ALSO, AS YOU HAVE REPEATEDLY EXPLAINED -- THE PROMOTION OF MUTUAL MODERATION HABITS, PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE AND, IN THE END, EFFECTIVE COOPERATION. "DETENTE" DOES NOT MEAN GIVING UP THE STRUGGLE AGAINST SOVIET EXPANSION, AS THOSE WHO DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT CLAIM. AS YOU HAVE STATED, "DETENTE" IMPLIES THE ELABORATION OF A STRUCTURE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, CAPABLE OF PUNISHING AGGRESSION AND RESTRAINING EXPANSION, AT THE SAME TIME THAT IT CREATES INCENTIVES FOR EXERCISING MODERATION.

"DETENTE" DOES NOT IMPLY EITHER THE ELIMINATION OF IDEOLOGICAL DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THOSE WHO FAVOR A FREE AND THOSE WHO FAVOR A TOTALITARIAN SOCIETY. ON THE CONTRARY, WITHIN THE PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE WHICH "DETENTE" PROPOSES, IDEOLOGICAL COMPETITION IS STIMULATED, BECAUSE WHAT IRREDUCTIBLY SEPARATES THE BELIEFS OF THOSE OF US WHO PRACTICE DEMOCRACY FROM UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 SAN JO 00917 01 OF 02 241213Z

THE BELIEFS OF THOSE WHO FAVOR TOTALITARISM, IS THE VERY CONCEPTION OF MAN IN SOCIETY.

FOR US, MAN IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE STATE AND, THEREFORE, WE BELIEVE THAT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING CAN ONLY BE FULLY ACHIEVED WHEN HUMAN DIGNITY IS RESPECTED.

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PAGE 01 SAN JO 00917 02 OF 02 240433Z

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 SAN JOSE 0917

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FOR THE TOTALITARIANS, ON THE CONTRARY, THE
INDIVIDUAL, AS SUCH, IS WORTH NOTHING. THAT IS WHY
THEY BELIEVE THAT THE NEED TO ACCELERATE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND TO SOLVE SOCIAL PROBLEMS, DEMANDS
FORSAKING OF INDIVIDUAL DIGNITY IN FAVOR OF THE
ALL-POWERFUL STATE.

"WE ARE AN "ALIGNED" NATION": THE EXPANSION OF

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PAGE 02 SAN JO 00917 02 OF 02 240433Z

SOVIET INFLUENCE IN RECENT TIMES -- INCLUDING THE CURRENT
ONE IN ANGOLA -- DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A TRIUMPH OF
COMMUNIST IDEAS OVER DEMOCRATIC IDEAS, BUT AN IMPOSITION

OF SOVIET MILITARY AND ECONOMIC POWER ON UNDER-DEVELOPED NATIONS. COMMUNISM HAS NEVER TRIUMPHED IN AN AUTHENTIC DEMOCRACY. IT HAS ONLY PENETRATED THERE WHERE DEMOCRACY DENIES ITSELF, WHERE AUTHORITARIAN POLITICAL CONDITIONS OR MISERY UNDERMINE POPULAR RESISTANCE.

THERE IS NOT ONE SINGLE CASE IN WHICH COMMUNISM HAS WON A FREE ELECTION. THE PEOPLE BY THEIR OWN CHOICE HAVE NEVER CHOSEN A TOTALITARIAN WAY OF LIFE. COMMUNISM HAS ONLY TRIUMPHED BY SOVIET MILITARY IMPOSITION OR THROUGH "COUPS D'ETAT" LED BY MINORITY GROUPS. CZARIST RUSSIA WAS NEVER A DEMOCRACY. NEITHER WAS CONTINENTAL CHINA WHEN MAO CAME INTO POWER. NOR WAS CUBA A DEMOCRACY DURING BATISTA'S TIME.

IN THE COMPETITION BETWEEN DEMOCRATIC AND TOTALITARIAN IDEOLOGY, COSTA RICA IS NOT NEUTRAL. IT IS ON THE SIDE OF FREEDOM. AND, THEREFORE, CAN NEITHER BE NEUTRAL REGARDING THE STRUGGLE WHICH, WITHIN THE "DETENTE" POLICY, THE UNITED STATES IS CARRYING OUT TO PUT A STOP TO THE EXPANSION OF SOVIET TOTALITARIAN INFLUENCE. WE CANNOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO THE UNCONTROLLED EXPANSION OF SOVIET MILITARY OR SUBVERSIVE SCHEMES. THIS IS THE REASON WHY WE HAVE NEVER BELONGED TO THAT GROUP OF NATIONS WHICH CALL THEMSELVES "NON ALIGNED." COSTA RICA, ON THE CONTRARY, IS AN "ALIGNED" NATION.

IN FACT, WE ARE ALIGNED IN FAVOR OF FREEDOM AND AGAINST THE EXTENSION OF SOVIET TOTALITARIANISM. BUT WE DO NOT CONSIDER OUR ALIGNMENT AS A SUBMISSION. WE CONSIDER OURSELVES AS ALLIED TO THE UNITED STATES, NEVER AS YOUR COUNTRY'S SATELLITE, MR. SECRETARY OF STATE.

WE HOLD THE THESIS THAT A COUNTRY LIKE OUR OWN, WHICH, ALTHOUGH SMALL AND UNARMED, HAS THE MORAL BACKING OF ITS DEMOCRATIC TRADITIONS, CAN ACT WITH INDEPENDENCE IN THE WORLD OR THE REGIONAL CONCERT OF NATIONS. AND ALSO
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PAGE 03 SAN JO 00917 02 OF 02 240433Z

CAN STRUGGLE, CONSTANTLY, FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PRACTICES -- ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL -- WHICH HAVE DAMAGED SO SERIOUSLY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND, AS A RESULT, THE SAME CAUSE OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY.

THERE IS A SAYING THAT, ALTHOUGH COMMONPLACE, HAS NOT LOST ITS ORIGINAL SENSE OF FRATERNITY. SPECIALLY WHEN IT IS EXPRESSED WITH SINCERITY, AS I BELIEVE WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED ON THIS OCCASION. THAT IS WHY I AM GOING TO MAKE USE OF IT: IN COSTA RICA, FEEL AT HOME, DR. KISSINGER.

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